

CLAIMS

1. A tool for rotatably connecting together two lengths of pipe including:
- 5 a body having an internally threaded open end adapted to be threadably engaged with an externally threaded first end of one of said two lengths of pipe;
- a bolt threadably movable withing the body; and
- a friction plate mounted on the bolt and movable within the body upon movement of the bolt, said plate being frictionally engageable with a peripheral edge of the first end of said one length of pipe to rotate said length of pipe upon rotation of said body.
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2. The tool defined in claim 1 wherein the body has a second end opposite the open end which includes a threaded opening; and in which the bolt has an externally threaded shaft engaged within said threaded opening of the second end.
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3. The tool defined in claim 2 wherein the second end of the body includes an end plate secured to said body, an enlarged hole is formed in said end plate through which the bolt extends, and a nut forming the threaded opening is secured to said end plate and aligned with said enlarged hole.
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4. The tool defined in claim 1 wherein a pair of stop members are mounted on the bolt; and in which the friction plate is loosely trapped between said stop members.

5 5. The tool defined in claim 3 in which a nut is secured to an outer surface of the end plate of the body and is formed with an enlarged central opening; and in which the bolt extends through said central opening.

10 6. The tool defined in claim 1 wherein a sleeve is secured within the open end of the body and has an internally threaded area which forms the internally threaded open end of said body.

15 7. The tool defined in claim 6 wherein the sleeve has an inner annular edge within the body which forms a stop for the friction plate.

8. The tool defined in claim 1 wherein the body has an elongated cylindrical sidewall with the end plate being disc-shaped and secured to said sidewall by a weld.

20 9. The tool defined in claim 1 wherein the friction plate is disc-shaped and has a diameter less than an inner diameter of the body.

10. In combination first and second lengths of pipes, a coupling for joining together opposed ends of said pipes and a tool for rotating the first length of pipe which has two threaded ends into threaded engagement with the coupling, said tool having a hollow body with an open end and internal threads adjacent said open end for threadably mounting the tool on said first length of pipe, a shaft rotatably mounted on the body and movable axially within a hollow interior of said body, and a friction member mounted on the shaft and movable into pressure engagement with a peripheral end edge of the first length of pipe for rotating said first length of pipe into the coupling.

11. The combination defined in claim 10 wherein the first length of pipe is metal and has an outer plastic coating.

12. The combination defined in claim 11 wherein the plastic coating is PVC.

13. The combination defined in claim 10 wherein the tool body has a second end opposite of the open end which includes an internally threaded opening; and in which the shaft is threadably engaged within said threaded opening.

14. The combination defined in claim 13 wherein the second end of the body includes a disc-shaped end plate secured to said body, an enlarged hole

through which the shaft extends and a nut secured to said end plate aligned with said enlarged hole for threadably receiving the shaft therein.

15. The combination defined in claim 10 wherein a pair of stop members are mounted on the shaft; and in which the friction member is loosely trapped between said stop members.

16. A method for joining a first threaded end of a section of pipe into a threaded coupling comprising the steps of:

threadably mounting a body having an internally threaded open first end onto a second threaded end of the pipe;

advancing a friction member which is axially movably mounted within the body into pressure frictional engagement with a peripheral edge of the second end of the pipe; and

rotating the body to rotate the pipe and correspondingly the first end of the pipe into the threaded connector through the frictional engagement of the friction member with the peripheral edge of the second end of the pipe.

17. The method defined in claim 16 including the step of loosely mounting the friction member on a shaft which is rotatably mounted within the body.

18. The method defined in claim 17 including the step of providing a threaded opening on a second end of the body, and threadably mounting the shaft therein.

5 19. The method defined in claim 16 including the step of mounting an internally threaded sleeve within the open end of the body to form said internally threaded first open end.

20. The method defined in claim 16 including the step of forming the pipe of metal having an external plastic coating applied thereto.

10 21. In combination first and second lengths of pipes and a tool for rotating the first length of pipe into coupled engagement with the second length of pipe, said tool having a hollow body with an open end for mounting the tool on said first length of pipe, and a friction member mounted within the body and movable into pressure engagement with a peripheral end edge of the first length of pipe for rotating said first length of pipe into coupling engagement with said second length of pipe.

15 22. The combination defined in claim 21 wherein the body has a threaded area adjacent the open end for mounting the tool on said first length of pipe; and in

which the friction member is mounted on a shaft which is rotatably movable within the body.

23. The combination defined in claim 22 wherein the friction member is a disc-shaped plate loosely mounted on the shaft between a pair of stop members.

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